

ALABAMA BOARD OF NURSING

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

AGENCY NAME: Alabama Board of Nursing

RULE NO. & TITLE: Rule 610-X-7-.02 Delegation by School Nurses

INTENDED ACTION: The Alabama Board of Nursing proposes to amend the section specific to school nurses to allow delegation of glucagon under certain circumstances.

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION: The Alabama Board of Nursing proposes to amend Rule 610-X-7-.02, Delegation by School Nurses, to allow school nurses to delegate glucagon under certain circumstances. A copy of the proposed amended rule may be found on the Board's web site, www.abn.alabama.gov, under "laws" and then "proposed rule changes."

TIME, PLACE, MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS: Written or oral comments will be received by the Board of Nursing until 4:30 P.M. on Monday, January 6, 2014. Verbal or written comments be directed to N. Genell Lee, Executive Officer, at P.O. Box 303900, Montgomery, AL 36130-3900 or via electronic mail at Genell.Lee@abn.alabama.gov or via telephone at 334-293-5210.

FINAL DATE FOR COMMENT AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE:
The record closes at 4:30 P.M. on Monday, January 6, 2014.

CONTACT PERSON AT AGENCY: N. Genell Lee, Executive Officer.

Executive Officer

ALABAMA BOARD OF NURSING
DELEGATION BY SCHOOL NURSES
RULE 610-X-7-.02

Rule 610-X-7-.02 Delegation by School Nurses

- (1) The school nurse is accountable and responsible for the nursing care delivered to students under the nurse's jurisdiction.
- (2) Over-the-counter (OTC) medications may be administered to schoolchildren by the school nurse with a parent's written authorization and without a physician's authorization unless the school system policy requires a physician authorization. Parental authorization requirements require the following documentation:
 - (a) The purpose of the OTC medication.
 - (b) The circumstances under which the over-the-counter medication can be administered.
- (3) Registered nurses or licensed practical nurses who provide nursing care in the school setting through the twelfth grade may delegate specific tasks to unlicensed assistive personnel.
- (4) The registered nurse is accountable for determining the tasks that may be safely performed by the unlicensed assistive personnel following appropriate training and demonstration of competency.
- (5) Delegation of the use of the vagal nerve stimulator (VNS) in selected cases is not prohibited.
- (6) The specific delegated tasks shall not require the exercise of independent nursing judgment or intervention. Specific tasks that require independent nursing judgment or intervention that shall not be delegated include, but are not limited to:
 - (a) Catheterization, clean or sterile.
 - (b) Administration of injectable medications, other than premeasured medication for allergic reactions and glucagon for children with diabetes who are unconscious or having seizures from hypoglycemia.
 - (c) Administration of rectal or vaginal medications.
 - (d) Calculation of medication dosages other than measuring a prescribed amount of liquid medication or breaking a scored tablet.
 - (e) Tracheotomy care, including suctioning.
 - (f) Gastric tube insertion, replacement, or feedings.
 - (g) Invasive procedures or techniques.
 - (h) Sterile procedures.
 - (i) Ventilator care.
 - (j) Receipt of verbal or telephone orders from a licensed prescriber.
- (7) The task of providing prescribed oral, topical, ear, eye, nasal, and inhalation, and selected injectable medications to a student through twelfth

grade may be delegated to unlicensed assistive personnel by the school nurse only when the following conditions are met:

- (a) The school nurse identifies the appropriate individual(s) to assist in providing prescribed medications other than glucagon.
- ~~(a)~~ (b) The lead school nurse in each local education agency determines the appropriate school personnel to assist students with insulin dependent diabetes who have orders for glucagon, from a licensed prescriber, in the event of hypoglycemia causing unconsciousness or seizures.
- ~~(b)~~ (c) Glucagon administration may be delegated to school personnel who receive four (4) hours of specific training associated with diabetes, hypoglycemia, hyperglycemia, activity impact on blood sugar, and methods for raising a low blood sugar. Repeat training shall occur annually and as often as determined by the lead school nurse.
 - (i) Delegation of glucagon administration to unlicensed school personnel is restricted to extracurricular activities and field trips sponsored by the school. Extracurricular activities are athletic events after regular school hours, club meetings after regular school hours, and tutoring and other school-sponsored activities after hours.
 - (ii) The delegation of glucagon administration requires an individual student emergency plan, a Board-approved training program, and a quarterly report to the Board any time glucagon is given in the school system.
 - (iii) The school nurse shall provide education for all school personnel where a child or children with insulin dependent diabetes attend(s) a specific school.
- ~~(c)~~ (d) The unlicensed assistive personnel selected by the school nurse shall attend a minimum ~~twelve~~-seven hour course of instruction that includes a curriculum approved by the Board and demonstrated competency to perform the delegated task.
- ~~(d)~~ (e) The school nurse shall provide periodic and regular evaluation and monitoring of the individual performing the delegated tasks.
- ~~(e)~~ (f) The school nurse shall routinely and periodically conduct quality monitoring of the tasks performed by the unlicensed assistive personnel, including, but not limited to:
 - (i) Training.
 - (ii) Competency.
 - (iii) Documentation.
 - (iv) Error reporting.
 - (v) Methods of identification of the right student, the right task, the right method, and the right quantity at the right time.
- (8) The school nurse delegating the task may, at any time, suspend or withdraw the delegation of specific tasks to unlicensed assistive personnel.

(9) The School Nurse Consultant or School Nurse Administrator shall submit a report(s) to the Alabama Board of Nursing in a format specified by the Board upon request.

(10) A school nurse may permit an insulin dependent diabetic student with an order for glucagon, from a licensed prescriber, to be transported home by bus from school if the following conditions are met:

(a) The physician or licensed prescriber who prescribed the glucagon agrees and provides the school nurse with a target minimum blood sugar the student shall have prior to boarding the bus for the trip home.

(b) The parent(s) or guardian(s) of the student agrees to the practice and agrees to ensure that the student's blood sugar level is at or above the target minimum blood sugar prior to boarding the bus for transportation to school from home.

(c) The school nurse checks the student's blood sugar 30 minutes prior to the student's departure on the bus to return home.

(d) If the student's blood sugar is lower than the target minimum blood sugar, the school nurse takes corrective measures, and ensures that the student's blood sugar is at or above the target minimum blood sugar prior to the child's departure on the bus to return home.

(e) The duration of the child's bus ride home is no more than 30 minutes.

(f) The school bus driver is provided with specific instructions for handling low blood sugar for each student and is provided with appropriate snacks, sugar gel, or other mechanisms of addressing low blood sugar for the specific child.

(g) If, in the judgment of the school nurse, the child may not ride the bus home from school, the parent or guardian(s) shall be contacted for alternative arrangements.

Author: Alabama Board of Nursing

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-21-2(c)(21).

History: Filed September 29, 1982. **Repealed:** Filed October 29, 2001; effective December 3, 2001. **New Rule:** Filed November 23, 2009; effective December 28, 2009. Proposed amended rule filed November 18, 2013.